

Breit type equation for mesonic atoms

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Abstract

The finite size effects and relativistic corrections in pionic and kaonic hydrogen are evaluated by generalizing the Breit equation for a spin-0 - spin-1/2 amplitude with the inclusion of the hadron electromagnetic form factors. The agreement of the relativistic corrections to the energies of the mesonic atoms with other methods used to evaluate them is not exact, but reasonably good. The precision values of the energy shifts due to the strong interaction, extracted from data, are however subject to the hadronic form factor uncertainties.

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More than fifty years after their first appearance [1], hadronic atoms continue to be important for a better understanding of fundamental interactions. One of the first speculations of their existence came from the historic papers of Fermi, Teller and Wheeler[2], where they showed that the time required for a negative meson (they were actually referring to muons) to be trapped into an atomic orbit would be ($\sim 10^{-13}$ s) much less than its mean weak decay lifetime ($\sim 10^{-6}$ s). The negative hadron which is generally trapped into an excited state, undergoes transitions to lower states until it eventually enters the field of the nuclear strong interaction. The energy levels and widths of the hadronic atomic states are naturally affected by the strong interaction and hence experimental programmes to measure the shifts in the energies and widths in pionic [3, 4], kaonic [5], Σ -hyperonic, antiprotonic and ponium [6] atoms accurately are being carried out vigorously with the aim of pinning down the strong interaction parameters. However, the extraction of these parameters to a good accuracy, requires the determination of the electromagnetic corrections accurately too. For example, the availability of precision data on pionic hydrogen [3] and deuterium [7] has led to calculations of various electromagnetic corrections to the hadronic scattering lengths to better than 1% [8, 9].

Whilst most of the calculations in recent literature aim at a high accuracy in evaluating corrections such as those due to vacuum polarization, relativistic recoil and other higher order corrections, the finite size of the pion and the proton is treated in a rather simplistic way. The correction to the binding energy of the pionic hydrogen, due to the extended charge of the pion and the proton is given in some works as [10],

$$\Delta E = \frac{2}{3} \mu^3 \alpha^4 \left[\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle + \langle r_p^2 \rangle \right], \quad (1)$$

where, μ is the reduced mass of the πp system, r_π and r_p the charge radii of the π and p respectively and α the usual fine structure constant. In [8], the Coulomb potential was modified by introducing a Gaussian charge distribution which depended on the pion and proton charge radii. In the present work, we evaluate the relativistic and finite size corrections (FSC) by modifying the Breit equation [11] to include the meson (pion or kaon) and the proton electromagnetic form factors. For similar Breit-like approaches, see [12]. The results of this Breit type equation approach are compared with an ‘improved Coulomb potential’ [13] which has been used in [3, 8], to obtain corrections due to relativistic recoil and the anomalous magnetic moment of the proton, while extracting the strong energy shift

in pionic hydrogen. Using the available parameterizations of the hadron form factors, we also investigate the uncertainty in the estimate of the FSC. Considering the high precision with which the strong energy shifts and widths for the $1s$ pionic hydrogen states, namely, $\epsilon_{1s} = -7.108 \pm 0.013$ (stat) ± 0.034 (syst) eV and $\Gamma_{1s} = 0.868 \pm 0.040$ (stat) ± 0.038 (syst) eV [3], as well as the hadronic πN scattering length, $a_{\pi-p}^h = 0.0870(5)$ m $_{\pi}^{-1}$ [9] are being quoted and the accuracy with which the one loop calculations for the ground state energy of the pionic hydrogen are carried out [14], the present results become relevant.

There is no unique approach to calculate relativistic corrections to level shifts of bound two-body systems [12, 13, 15]. We shall employ the technique of the Breit equation as it is particularly suited to include form-factors effects in a rather transparent way. This way an equation emerges which combines relativistic and finite size (FSC) effects. A further motivation to use the Breit approach is to compare it with results obtained in a different way. Regarding the relativistic corrections, it is known that the Breit equation is consistent at the order α^4 [16] and using first order time-independent perturbation theory to calculate the energy corrections [17]. The presence of negative energy states poses a problem in perturbation theory at higher orders [17]. A detailed comparison between the results obtained in the Breit framework and an equation which correctly projects the positive energies has been performed in [18]. The correction to the Breit energy in this work is given as, $\Delta E_{cc} = -2\alpha^5 \mu^3 / 3\pi M_{\pi} M_p$ (μ is the reduced mass, M_{π} the pion and M_p the nucleon mass) which applied to pionic atoms gives 6×10^{-5} eV. This is too small to be of relevance here.

To evaluate the complete electromagnetic potential, we expand the amplitude for πp elastic scattering, in $1/c^2$ terms, thereby generalizing the Breit type equation [11] by the inclusion of the proton and pion electromagnetic form factors. This leads to non-local terms in the potential, whose contributions are not negligible [19]. The $p\gamma p$ and the $\pi^{-}\gamma\pi^{-}$ vertices can be written in terms of the form factors F_1^p , F_2^p (representing the charge and magnetization distributions in the proton) and F^{π} (charge distribution in the pion) as,

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_p^{\mu} &= F_1^p \gamma^{\mu} - \frac{\sigma^{\mu\nu}}{2M_p c} q_{\nu} F_2^p \\ \Gamma_{\pi}^{\nu} &= F^{\pi}(q^2) (P_2 + P_2')^{\nu},\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

The photon four-momentum, $q = P_1' - P_1 = P_2 - P_2'$. In the non-relativistic limit ($q^0 = 0$) and $q^2 = -\vec{Q}^2$, where, $\vec{Q} = \vec{p}_1' - \vec{p}_1 = \vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_2'$. The amplitude for the process $\pi^{-} + p \rightarrow \pi^{-} + p$

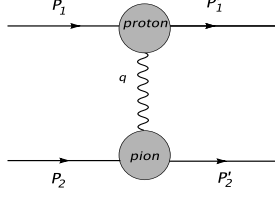


FIG. 1: Feynman diagram for pion-proton scattering

is given by [19],

$$M_{fi} = -\alpha [(\bar{u}(\vec{p}_1') \Gamma_p^\mu u(\vec{p}_1)) D_{\mu\nu}(\vec{Q}) \Gamma_\pi^\nu] (1/\sqrt{2E_2/c}) (1/\sqrt{2E_2'/c}), \quad (3)$$

where, $D_{\mu\nu}(\vec{Q})$ is the photon propagator and $u(\vec{p}_1)$, $u(\vec{p}_1')$, the Dirac spinors given as, $u = \sqrt{2M}[(1 - \frac{\vec{p}^2}{8M_p^2 c^2}) w, \frac{\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{p}}{2M_p c} w]^T$. Substituting for the $u(\vec{p})$'s and the vertex factors, Γ_p^μ and Γ_π^ν , the amplitude in (3) is evaluated and then rearranged to be written in the form,

$$M_{fi} = -2 M_p [w_1'^* U(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2, \vec{Q}) w_1], \quad (4)$$

thus obtaining the potential in momentum space: $U(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2, \vec{Q}) = -4\pi \alpha \sum_i U_i(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2, \vec{Q})$, where,

$$\begin{aligned} U_1 &= \frac{F_1^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2)}{Q^2}, \quad U_2 = -\frac{F^\pi(Q^2) F_2^p(Q^2)}{4 M_p^2 c^2}, \quad U_3 = -\frac{F_1^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2)}{M_p M_\pi c^2 Q^2} [\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{p}_2], \\ U_4 &= \frac{F_1^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2)}{M_p M_\pi c^2 Q^2} \left[\frac{(\vec{p}_1 \cdot \vec{Q})(\vec{p}_2 \cdot \vec{Q})}{Q^2} \right], \quad U_5 = -\frac{F^\pi(Q^2) F_1^p(Q^2)}{8 M_p^2 c^2} \\ U_6 &= -\frac{F_1^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2)}{2 M_p M_\pi c^2 Q^2} [i(\vec{\sigma}_1 \times \vec{Q}) \cdot \vec{p}_2], \quad U_7 = -\frac{F_2^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2)}{2 M_p M_\pi c^2 Q^2} [i(\vec{\sigma}_1 \times \vec{Q}) \cdot \vec{p}_2] \\ U_8 &= \frac{F_1^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2)}{4 M_p^2 c^2 Q^2} [i \vec{\sigma}_1 \cdot (\vec{Q} \times \vec{p}_1)], \quad U_9 = \frac{F_2^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2)}{2 M_p^2 c^2 Q^2} [i(\vec{p}_1 \times \vec{\sigma}_1) \cdot \vec{Q}]. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

The potential in r -space is got by Fourier transforming each of the above terms [11], namely,

$$V_i(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2, \vec{r}) = \int e^{i\vec{Q} \cdot \vec{r}} U_i(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2, \vec{Q}) \frac{d^3 Q}{(2\pi)^3}. \quad (6)$$

The vectors \vec{p}_1 and \vec{p}_2 become differential operators in r -space [11]. The FSC to the $1s$ state in pionic hydrogen can now be calculated as, $\Delta E = \frac{\alpha}{a} + \sum_i \Delta E_i$, where,

$$\Delta E_i = \int \Psi_{100}(r) V_i(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2, r) \Psi_{100}(r) d\vec{r} \quad (7)$$

and $\Psi_{100}(r) = e^{-r/a}/(\sqrt{\pi a^3})$ with the Bohr radius $a = 1/\alpha\mu$ and μ the πp reduced mass. The factor α/a in ΔE , arises from the fact that the potential $V_1(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2, r)$ contains the usual $(1/r)$ Coulomb potential too which must be subtracted while calculating ΔE_1 . The spin-dependent terms (U_6 to U_9) do not contribute to ΔE for the $1s$ state (see the appendix of [19]). Expressing F_1^p and F_2^p , in terms of the Sachs form factors [19], $G_E^p(Q^2)$ and $G_M^p(Q^2)$ and using Eqs (5, 6 and 7), the total ΔE is given as a sum of the terms:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta E_{12} &= \left(\frac{\alpha}{a} + \Delta E_1 \right) + \Delta E_2 = -\frac{32\alpha}{\pi a^4} \int_0^\infty \frac{F^\pi(Q^2) G_E^p(Q^2) dQ}{(a'^2 + Q^2)^2} + \frac{\alpha}{a} \\ \Delta E_{34} &= \Delta E_3 + \Delta E_4 = \frac{16\alpha}{\pi M_p M_\pi a^5} \int_0^\infty \frac{F_1^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2)}{Q^2} \left[\frac{\tan^{-1}(Qa/2)}{Q} - \frac{a'}{a'^2 + Q^2} \right] dQ \\ \Delta E_5 &= \frac{4\alpha}{\pi M_p^2 a^4} \int_0^\infty F_1^p(Q^2) F^\pi(Q^2) \frac{Q^2}{(a'^2 + Q^2)^2} dQ,\end{aligned}\tag{8}$$

with, $a' = 2/a$. In the above, the individual contribution due to ΔE_2 is found to be much smaller than $(\alpha/a) + \Delta E_1$ and in fact the two expressions can be combined to be written in the above compact form for ΔE_{12} . The term U_3 in (5) gives rise to the correction ΔE_3 which cancels exactly with part of the term arising from ΔE_4 and hence we write the total sum of these two terms above as ΔE_{34} . Putting $F_1^p = G_E^p = F^\pi = 1$ in (8), i.e. in the case of point hadrons, one gets from (8) the Coulomb term plus relativistic corrections.

We use two forms for the form factors of the proton. In the standard dipole form, $G_E^p(Q^2) \simeq G_M^p(Q^2)/\mu_p \simeq G_D(Q^2)$, with, $G_D(Q^2) = 1/(1 + Q^2/m^2)^2$, $m^2 = 0.71 \text{ GeV}^2$ and μ_p the magnetic moment of the proton. The other parameterization is one of the latest phenomenological fit [20], where, G_E^p and G_M^p are given by the ansatz, $G_N(Q^2) = G_S(Q^2) + a_b Q^2 G_b(Q^2)$. The explicit forms of $G_S(Q^2)$ and $G_b(Q^2)$ are given in [20] and the parameters for the proton form factors are given in Table II of [20]. The existing data [21, 22] on the pion form factor is well reproduced by a monopole form, namely,

$$F^\pi(Q^2) = \frac{1}{1 + (\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle / 6) Q^2} = \frac{\Lambda_\pi^2}{\Lambda_\pi^2 + Q^2}\tag{9}$$

such that, $\Lambda_\pi^2 = 6/\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle$. The corrections (8) can be evaluated analytically, using the dipole form of the proton form factors. Since the analytic expressions for ΔE are lengthy, we give below, only the leading terms (in α) of each of these terms. The sum of the corrections using U_1 and U_2 is denoted as ΔE_{12}^{lead} , that coming from U_3 and U_4 in (5) as ΔE_{34}^{lead} and one arising due to U_5 as ΔE_5^{lead} .

$$\Delta E_{12}^{lead} = \left(\frac{16\alpha m^4 \Lambda_\pi^2}{a^3} \right) \left[\frac{2 M_p^2 d_1}{m_{13}^2} + \frac{3 M_p^2 d_2}{m_{13}^2} - \frac{\Lambda_\pi^2 d_2}{4 m_{13}^2} \right],\tag{10}$$

TABLE I: Corrections ΔE in eV to pionic hydrogen using $\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle = 0.439 \text{ fm}^2$. Numbers in brackets correspond to $\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle = 0.5476 \text{ fm}^2$. The errors bars are due to the errors on the proton form factors.

	F_1^p, F_2^p of Ref.[20]	Dipole form
ΔE_{12} (eV)	0.102 ± 0.009 (0.111 ± 0.009)	0.095 (0.104)
ΔE_{34} (eV)	0.0388 (0.0388)	0.0388 (0.0388)
ΔE_5 (eV)	0.0029 (0.0029)	0.0029 (0.0029)
Total ΔE (eV)	0.143 ± 0.009 (0.153 ± 0.009)	0.137 (0.146)

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta E_{34}^{lead} &= \frac{8 \alpha \Lambda_\pi^2 m^4 M_p}{M_\pi a^3} d_3 - \frac{4 \alpha M_p m^4 \Lambda_\pi^2}{M_\pi a^3} \left[\frac{e_1}{\Lambda_\pi^2} + \frac{e_2}{4M_p^2} + \frac{e_3}{m^2} + \frac{e_4}{m^4} \right], \\
\Delta E_5^{lead} &= \frac{2 \alpha \Lambda_\pi^4 m^4}{a^3} \frac{d_2}{m_{13}^2}, \\
d_1 &= \frac{-1}{m_{42}^2 m_{12}^2} + \frac{1}{m_{42}^2 m_{14}^2} - \frac{2}{m_{12}^3 m_{42}}, \quad d_2 = \frac{-1}{m_{42}^2 m_{12}} + \frac{1}{m_{42}^2 m_{14}} - \frac{1}{m_{42} m_{14}^2}, \\
d_3 &= \frac{1}{m_{23} m_{43}^2 m_{31}} + \frac{1}{m_{23} m_{42}^2 m_{12}} + \frac{1}{m_{42}^2 m_{43} m_{41}} + \frac{1}{m_{42} m_{43}^2 m_{41}} + \frac{1}{m_{42} m_{43} m_{41}^2}, \\
e_1 &= \frac{1}{m_{43}^2 m_{23}}, \quad e_2 = \frac{-1}{m_{42}^2 m_{23}}, \quad e_3 = \frac{m_{42} + m_{43}}{(m_{42} m_{43})^2}, \quad e_4 = \frac{1}{m_{42} m_{43}}
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

where we denote, $m_{ij} = m_i - m_j$, with $m_1 = a'^2$, $m_2 = 4M_p^2$, $m_3 = \Lambda_\pi^2$ and $m_4 = m^2$. Recall that $a = 1/\alpha\mu$, $a' = 2/a$ and hence each of the above ΔE terms are proportional to α^4 . Note that if one further expands the coefficients d_1 and d_2 to retain only the leading terms, one indeed recovers Eq. (1) from ΔE_{12}^{lead} above. The calculations using the recent parameterization of [20] are performed numerically. In Table I, we list the corrections to the binding energy of pionic hydrogen, ΔE , using the two parameterizations of the proton form factors as well as two different values of Λ_π in the pion form factor. The value of $\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle = 0.439 \text{ fm}^2$ is obtained from older πe scattering experiments [21] and $\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle = 0.5476 \text{ fm}^2$ is taken from a recent measurement at the Mainz Microtron facility [23]. Although it is usually agreed that the true pion charged radius $\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle = 0.439 \text{ fm}^2$, we have displayed the sensitivity of the energy correction to the pion radius by invoking the result of a second independent measurement [23]. As noted in [23], the disagreement between the two measurements is supposedly due to a model dependence in the extraction of the value of the radius. The error on the value of ΔE_{12} is evaluated using standard error propagation methods (see below). The contributions ΔE_{34} and ΔE_5 are not sensitive to these errors.

In what follows, we shall compare the relativistic corrections of the present approach with approaches in literature which have been used for the extraction of the strong interaction shift, ϵ_{1s} , in pionic hydrogen, defined as, $\epsilon_{1s} = E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{e.m.} - E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{measured}$. $E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{measured}$ is the measured transition energy [3] and $E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{e.m.}$ is the calculated electromagnetic transition energy (here the strong interaction shift of the $3p$ state is assumed to be negligible). $E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{e.m.}$ consists of the energy due to the Coulomb potential between point particles and various electromagnetic corrections [8]. Let us first consider the relativistic correction to the standard non-relativistic Schrödinger equation. The Hamiltonian of the Breit equation (in the centre of mass system, where $\vec{p}_1 = \vec{p}_2 = -i\vec{\nabla} = \vec{p}$) is given as, $H_{Breit} = \vec{p}^2/2\mu - \vec{p}^4/8\mu^3 c^2 + V(\vec{p}, \vec{r})$. Evaluation of the second term in the above equation, treating it as usual [25] as a perturbation, leads to the relativistic correction to the Bohr energy ($E_B^{1s} = -\mu\alpha^2/2$) of the $1s$ state, namely, $\Delta E_{rel}^{1s} = -(5/8)\mu\alpha^4 = -0.215 \text{ eV}$. In the ‘Improved Coulomb Potential’ (ICP) approach of Ref. [13], starting from Eqs (9) and (10) in [13], one can find the total energy, $E_B^{1s} + E^{ICP}$, for the case of a spin-1/2 and spin-0 bound state, where,

$$\begin{aligned} E^{ICP} &= -\frac{5}{8}\mu\alpha^4 + 2\kappa_p \left(\frac{\mu}{M_p}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\mu\alpha^4}{2}\right) - \frac{\mu\alpha^4}{2} \left[\frac{\mu}{4(M_p + M_\pi)} - \frac{2\mu}{M_p + M_\pi} - \left(\frac{\mu}{M_p}\right)^2 \right] \\ &= -0.215 \text{ eV} + 0.01 \text{ eV} + 0.037 \text{ eV} = \Delta E_{rel}^{1s} + 0.047 \text{ eV}. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Here, $\kappa_p = \mu_p - 1$, with $\mu_p = 2.793 \text{ nm}$. The first term represents the relativistic correction, which is referred to as the standard Klein-Gordon result in [13]. This term is identical to ΔE_{rel}^{1s} obtained from the Breit type equation. In the third approach, one could actually use the Klein-Gordon (KG) equation as was done in [3, 8]. Here the difference between the KG result, E_{KG}^{1s} and the Bohr energy, E_B^{1s} is, $E_{KG}^{1s} - E_B^{1s} = \Delta E_{KG}^{1s} = -0.211 \text{ eV}$.

In order to compare the terms apart from ΔE_{rel} in the Breit type equation approach with those in [13], we assume point-like hadrons such that the energies in (8) become,

$$\Delta \tilde{E}_{34}^{1s} + \Delta \tilde{E}_5^{1s} = \frac{\alpha^4 M_p M_\pi^3}{2(M_p + M_\pi)^3} \left[1 + 2\frac{M_p}{M_\pi} \right] = 0.0417 \text{ eV}. \quad (13)$$

with the tilde indicating the fact that the energies correspond to point-like hadrons. From Table I, we can see that $\Delta E_{34} + \Delta E_5$ is not different from $\Delta \tilde{E}_{34} + \Delta \tilde{E}_5$ (up to the fourth digit after the decimal) and the effect of the hadron form factors on these two corrections is negligible. Besides this, we also note that in contrast to [13], the contribution of the proton magnetic moment in the present work is found to be negligible. This can be seen by examining Eqs (10) which are obtained analytically assuming dipole proton form factors.

TABLE II: Contributions in (eV) to $E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{e.m.}$, and the deduced strong interaction shift, ϵ_{1s} using $\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle = 0.439 \text{ fm}^2$. Numbers in brackets correspond to $\langle r_\pi^2 \rangle = 0.5476 \text{ fm}^2$.

Point Coulomb, $E_B^{3p \rightarrow 1s} + \Delta E_{rel}^{3p \rightarrow 1s}$	2875.7196
Breit type equation (with finite size)	-0.143 \pm 0.009 (-0.153 \pm 0.009)
Vacuum Polarization, order α^2 [3]	3.235 \pm 0.001
Vacuum Polarization, order α^3 [3]	0.018
Vertex correction [3]	-0.007 \pm 0.003
Pionic atom recoil energy [3]	-0.004
Total calculated $E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{e.m.}$	2878.8186 \pm 0.009 (2878.8086 \pm 0.009)
$E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{measured}$ [3]	2885.916 \pm 0.013(stat) \pm 0.033(syst)
$\epsilon_{1s} = E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{e.m.} - E_{3p \rightarrow 1s}^{measured}$	-7.097 \pm 0.009(FSC) \pm 0.013(stat) \pm 0.033(syst)
	(-7.107 \pm 0.009(FSC) \pm 0.013(stat) \pm 0.033(syst))

Though, F_1^p in (8) contains both the electric and magnetic Sachs form factors, there appears no term with κ_p in the corrections at leading order in α as in (10). To summarize the above, we have three different approaches of summing the relativistic corrections:

$$\begin{aligned}
E_{Breit}^{3p \rightarrow 1s} &= \Delta E_{rel}^{3p \rightarrow 1s} - 0.0417 \text{ eV} = 0.171 \text{ eV} \\
E_{ICP}^{3p \rightarrow 1s} &= \Delta E_{rel}^{3p \rightarrow 1s} - 0.047 = 0.166 \text{ eV} \\
E_{Sigg}^{3p \rightarrow 1s} &= \Delta E_{KG}^{3p \rightarrow 1s} - 0.047 = 0.161 \text{ eV}.
\end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

As can be seen there is a slight dependence on the approach used to calculate the relativistic corrections. It is somewhat inconsistent to use E^{Sigg} [3, 8] as the sum of relativistic corrections, since E^{Sigg} is a sum of $\Delta E_{KG}^{3p \rightarrow 1s}$ and 0.047 eV, where 0.047 eV is taken from E^{ICP} (where $\Delta E_{rel}^{3p \rightarrow 1s} \neq \Delta E_{KG}^{3p \rightarrow 1s}$). Using a correction of $\Delta E_{rel}^{3p} = 0.0239$ to the Bohr energy of the $3p$ state, namely, $E_B^{3p} = 359.441$, in Table II we present a consistent deduction of the strong energy shift. The relativistic and FSC are taken from the Breit type equation approach and the remaining corrections are as in [3]. With the potential (6) being short-ranged, the finite size and relativistic corrections, $\Delta E_{12} + \Delta E_{34} + \Delta E_5$, to the energy of the $3p$ state are very small and hence neglected.

As evident from Table II, the error due to the electromagnetic form-factors of the proton is of the same order as the statistical and systematic counterparts. Therefore some remarks

on its determination are in order. The 6×6 correlation matrix $\rho_{ij} = \text{Cov}(a_i, a_j)/\sigma_i\sigma_j$ (a_i are the fitted parameters and σ_i their respective errors) was supplied to us by the authors of [20]. The error on ΔE due to uncertainties of hadronic form-factors is calculated by the standard method, i.e.

$$(\delta E)_{\text{FSC}}^2 = (\Delta\chi)^2 \sum_{i,j} \left. \frac{\partial \Delta E}{\partial a_i} \right|_0 \text{Cov}(a_i, a_j) \left. \frac{\partial \Delta E}{\partial a_j} \right|_0 \quad (15)$$

where the subscript 0 denotes the central value. Taking $(\Delta\chi)^2 = 1$, we obtain the 1- σ error on ΔE , namely, $(\delta E)_{\text{FSC}}^{1\sigma} = \pm 0.009$ eV. For 2- σ variations in the parameters, $\Delta\chi^2$ increases by 4 and the error on ΔE is doubled.

Within the framework of the present work, the correction to the energy of the $1s$ state in kaonic hydrogen (using the proton form factors of [20] and a monopole kaon form factor with $\langle r_K^2 \rangle = 0.34$ fm²) is, $E_{\text{kaon}}^{\text{Breit}} = \Delta E_{\text{rel}}^{1s} + \Delta E$ (FSC) = 0.573 eV + 2.525 eV = 3.098 eV (using central values of form factor parameters). This correction would be relevant when better data on kaonic hydrogen would become available from the ongoing programme of the DEAR collaboration [5].

In summary, we can say that the present work investigates the relativistic and finite size corrections in hadronic atoms, using a Breit-type equation. These corrections have been shown in the present work to be important for the precision measurements of the strong energy shifts in pionic hydrogen. We find that the contribution of the magnetic moment of the proton to the corrections is negligible. In future, we plan to extend such calculations for the evaluation of a spin-0 - spin-1 amplitude which would be relevant for the pionic deuterium case. The full electromagnetic potential in the πd case will involve the deuteron electric, magnetic and quadrupole form factors. In the πd atom, the strong energy shift has been found to be repulsive, namely, $\epsilon_{1s} = 2.43 \pm 0.1$ eV [7], with the contribution of the FSC, 0.51 eV (using the simple Eq. (1) with the proton radius replaced by the deuteron radius). The above approach could alter the precision values for pionic deuterium obtained so far.

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